

COUNTY BOROUGH OF ST. HELENS.



Annual Report
OF THE
School Medical Officer
FOR
1939.

FRANK HAUXWELL, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health
and School Medical Officer.

St. Helens:
WOOD, WESTWORTH & CO., LIMITED, PRINTERS AND STATIONERS,
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TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
ST. HELENS EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I submit herewith my Annual Report as School Medical Officer for the year 1939. This Report has been necessarily much abbreviated owing to war conditions, and statistical tables have been reduced to a minimum. Attention has been concentrated on essential information required by the Board of Education and this includes the effect of the war upon our School Medical Service locally. I think it will be found that despite the enormous demands made upon the personnel of the Department due to Civil Defence requirements, the difficulties have been met in such a way that the Service as a whole, and in particular the treatment side of the Service, has functioned satisfactorily.

The closure of the Open Air School on the outbreak of war was a great blow to the satisfactory treatment of delicate children. Although the problem is admittedly difficult, it is to be firmly hoped that something can be done at an early date to resume this most essential form of treatment.

The nutrition of the school children, generally speaking, has remained satisfactory. The Milk in Schools and School Meals Schemes are certainly adequate to cater for the town. I regret to state, however, that in some cases parents who suddenly obtained employment which raised the financial resources of the household above the scale qualifying for free meals, have neglected or refused to pay the few half pence in order that their children may continue to receive the milk or meals which formerly they obtained free of charge.

For much of the work done I am indebted to Dr. O'Brien, Deputy School Medical Officer, and my special thanks are due to Mr. Lonie, Director of Education, for his cordial co-operation and much valuable assistance.

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

FRANK HAUXWELL.

November, 1940.

STATISTICAL REVIEW OF WORK OF THE SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE
DURING THE YEAR 1939.

| | | |
|--|-------|--------|
| Children in Average Attendance at Elementary Schools | ..... | 16,111 |
| Total Examinations of Elementary School Children | ..... | 15,285 |
| Total Examinations of Secondary School Children | ..... | 1,574 |
| Miscellaneous Examinations (Bursars, etc.) | ..... | 242 |
| Minor Ailments treated | ..... | 2,919 |
| Visual Defects treated | ..... | 578 |
| Ear, Throat and Nose Defects treated | ..... | 183 |
| Children inspected by School Dentists | ..... | 16,977 |
| Children treated by School Dentists | ..... | 6,131 |
| Total Attendances at All School Clinics | ..... | 53,439 |
| Examinations by Nurses for Cleanliness | ..... | 55,137 |
| Visits to Schools by Medical Officers | ..... | 250 |
| Visits to Schools by Nurses | ..... | 4,445 |
| Home Visits by Nurses | ..... | 6,180 |
| Total Attendances at Inspection Clinic | ..... | 3,901 |

STAFF.

School Medical Officer and Medical Officer of Health :—

Frank Hauxwell, M.B., Ch.B. (Glasgow), D.P.H. (Camb.).

Deputy School Medical Officer and Deputy Medical Officer of Health :—

Gerald O'Brien, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (St. Andrew's).

Assistant School Medical Officers and Assistant Medical Officers of Health :—

Enid M. Hughes, M.B., Ch.B. (Liverp.).

Ian M. McLachlan, L.R.C.P.I. and L.M., L.R.C.S.I. and L.M., D.P.H. (Resigned March, 1939).

Jean M. Barrowman, M.B., Ch.B. (Glasgow).

Ronald G. Smithson, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

(From April, 1939).

Dental Surgeons :—

Vincent Higham, L.D.S.

Arthur N. Leicester, B.D.S.

Jean M. Simpkin, L.D.S.

Health Visitors and School Nurses :—

Superintendent : Eleanor J. Moorehead (2), (3), (6).

| | | | |
|--------------------|---------------|----------------------|---------------|
| Ethel Denman | (1), (5), (6) | Louisa Peace | (3), (6) |
| Mary Riding | (3), (6) | Caroline Good | (3), (6) |
| Emily Corrish | (3), (6) | *Gaynor Williams | (2), (3), (6) |
| Nora Hogan | (3), (6) | May Tonge | (2), (3), (6) |
| Mary Corrish | (3), (4), (6) | Florence Middlehurst | (2), (3), (6) |
| Alice Happold | (3), (5), (6) | Sophia M. McConnell | (3), (6) |
| Edith Curran | (3), (6) | Elsie Cornish | (2), (3), (6) |
| *Nellie Richardson | (3), (6) | | |

Pupil Health Visitors :—

| | | | |
|--------------------|---------------|-------------------|---------------|
| Mary Teresa Ewing | (3), (6) | Hilda Yorke | (3), (4), (6) |
| Margt. Alice Brown | (3), (4), (6) | Catherine Krogman | (3), (6) |

Orthopaedic Nurse :

Winifred M. Russell (7)

School Clinic and Dental Nurses and Attendants :—

| | | | |
|--------------------|---------------|--------------------|-----|
| Florence Faber | (3), (6) | Ethel M. K. Elliot | (3) |
| Florence Wilkinson | (3) | Elizabeth Howarth | |
| Phyllis M. Mather | (3) | Edna Mather | |
| Mary E. Gorton | (3), (4), (6) | | |

(1) Sanitary Inspector's Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

(2) New Health Visitor's Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

(3) General Trained Nurse.

(4) Fever Trained Nurse.

(5) Children's Trained Nurse.

(6) State Certified Midwife.

(7) Certificate of the Chartered Society of Massage and Medical Gymnastics.

* Resigned during the year.

The following are part-time officers :—

E. Allan, M.B., Ch.B. (Edin.), Ophthalmic Surgeon.

J. E. G. McGibbon, M.B., B.S. (Lond.), D.L.O. (Eng.),
Ear, Throat and Nose Surgeon.

T. P. McMurray, M.B., M.Ch., B.A.O., (R.U.I.), F.R.C.S.
(Edin.), Consulting Orthopaedic Surgeon.

B. L. McFarland, M.D. (Liverp.), M.Ch. (Orth.), M.B., Ch.B.,
F.R.C.S. (Ed.), Orthopaedic Surgeon.

J. Unsworth, M.B., B.S. (Lond.), Physician to the X-Ray
Department.

Muriel W. Ferrie, M.S.S.T., Speech Therapist.

MEDICAL INSPECTION.

Elementary Schools.

During the year 1939 there were under the control of the Education Committee 40 Elementary Schools with 79 departments. Particulars as to accommodation and attendances are as follows :—

| | | | |
|--|-----|-----|--------|
| Number of children for whom accommodation available | ... | ... | 25,116 |
| Average number of children on the roll during the year | ... | ... | 17,715 |
| Average number of children in attendance during the year | ... | ... | 16,111 |
| Percentage attendance for the year | ... | ... | 90.9% |

In view of the outbreak of war, the above figures require some explanation. The first figure, 25,116, represents the number of children for whom accommodation would have been available had 1939 been a normal year, and it is only correct, therefore, until September, 1939. After the expiry of the one week compulsory closure in the latter month, only those school departments for children over seven years of age were re-opened. The available accommodation, therefore, on the 11th September, was 16,278. Since that date the accommodation progressively increased as the Infants' Schools re-opened and in December, when all the Schools except three were again opened, the available accommodation was 24,114.

The average number of children on the roll and the average attendance was obviously affected by these factors. Taken over the whole year the average number on the roll during 1939 was 17,715, as compared with 18,779 during the previous year, and the average number in attendance was 16,111 as against a figure of 17,071 in 1938.

Medical Inspection in War Time.

From the outbreak of war until the end of 1939 the full dental and nursing staffs of the Authority were available for school medical inspection. The demands of Civil Defence, however, limited the activities of Medical Officers in schools to part time duties. Central Inspection Clinics, however, functioned normally and complete administrative control was retained by Medical Officers. In order that medical inspection should not lapse entirely the following scheme of modified school medical inspection was adopted in October and remained in force until December, 1939.

Scheme of Modified School Medical Inspection.

In cases where medical inspection in schools was due, either for purposes of routine examination of age groups or for re-examination of defects previously found, the inspections were carried out by School Nurses who devoted full time to the work. In the case of the routine age groups these examinations were obviously not com-

plete, as nurses were unable to report on, e.g., circulatory or respiratory systems, but other defects were charted and particular attention was paid to the nutritional state of the children. As regards re-examinations, individual progress reports were submitted for each case. Immediately following these inspections all the reports on routine cases and re-examinations were submitted to one of the Medical Officers. Each report was then analysed and appropriate instructions issued by the Medical Officer as to supervision or line of treatment to be adopted. The work done under this scheme until the end of the term in December, 1939, can be summarised as follows :

- (1) All routine examinations of school children of the eight year old group, including absentees which were outstanding from the summer term, were completed. These were carried out mainly by Medical Officers, but some examinations were conducted by School Nurses alone. Cowley Secondary School boys and girls were medically inspected by Medical Officers and all routine and re-examinations were brought up to date.
- (2) All Elementary Schools were medically inspected once during the term by the School Nurses. This included Infants' Schools which re-opened during the term. No routine examinations of the first age group (i.e. entrants) were, however, carried out.

The work carried out by the nurses under this scheme included the following :—

| | | |
|-----|---|------|
| (a) | No. of visits made by School Nurses to Departments for the purposes of medical inspection | 82 |
| (b) | No. of children of routine age groups inspected | 338 |
| (c) | No. in (b) referred for treatment | 22 |
| (d) | No. in (b) referred for observation | 92 |
| (e) | No. of special cases inspected | 185 |
| (f) | No. in (e) referred for treatment | 57 |
| (g) | No. in (e) referred for observation | 128 |
| (h) | No. of children previously found defective who were re-inspected | 2926 |

Particular attention was paid by inspecting nurses to cases of Malnutrition requiring extra nourishment in the form of milk or meals. Any doubtful cases, in the absence of the opinion of a visiting Medical Officer, were given the benefit of the doubt and were referred to Head Teachers for nutritional allowances. Cases requiring minor ailment treatment were referred direct to Minor Ailment Clinics by the nurses. Orthopaedic, aural, or other special defects were referred to appropriate clinics through the administrative medium of Medical Officers completing the inspection.

The following statement shows the number of inspections carried out by Medical Officers during the past five years :

| | | | 1935 | 1936 | 1937 | 1938 | 1939 |
|----------------------|-----|-----|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | | | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| Routine examinations | ... | ... | 5797 | 6919 | 5738 | 5989 | 3222 |
| Special examinations | ... | ... | 6437 | 6216 | 6142 | 5856 | 5586 |
| Re-examinations | ... | ... | 9570 | 9762 | 10138 | 10724 | 6389 |
| Attendances at | | | | | | | |
| Inspection Clinic | ... | ... | 3960 | 4510 | 4523 | 4070 | 3901 |

The detailed figures of the number medically inspected during the year are given in Table I.

Secondary Schools.

The Secondary Schools to which the provisions of the School Medical Service are applicable are the :—

St. Helens Cowley Boys' Secondary School.

St. Helens Cowley Middle School for Girls.

The following statement shows the work done in the medical inspection of these schools during the past five years :

| | | | 1935 | 1936 | 1937 | 1938 | 1939 |
|----------------------|-----|-----|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | | | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| Routine examinations | ... | ... | 960 | 894 | 983 | 996 | 1049 |
| Special examinations | ... | ... | 134 | 54 | 53 | 163 | 160 |
| Re-examinations | ... | ... | 157 | 143 | 120 | 274 | 365 |

The detailed figures of the number of children inspected are given in Table VIII.

FINDINGS OF MEDICAL INSPECTION.

Elementary Schools.

Detailed figures regarding the nutritional condition of the children inspected are given in Table II and to form a contrast the figures for the year 1938 are also shown. It will be seen that during the first eight months of 1939 there was a very slight rise in the classes of sub-normal (c) and bad nutrition (d). This rise is so slight as to require little comment, especially when it is noted that the excellent class (a) has risen from 2.5% to 5.4%.

Remark is made on provision for mal-nourished children in a later section of the Report.

Of 3,222 children examined at the routine medical inspections during 1939, 387 (12.0%) were found to be suffering from defects (other than uncleanliness, defective clothing or footgear, and dental defects), which required treatment, and 999 (30.7%) from defects requiring to be kept under observation.

During the past five years the corresponding percentages have been :

| | 1935 | 1936 | 1937 | 1938 | 1939 |
|--------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | — | — | — | — | — |
| Referred for treatment | 16.1% | 16.4% | 16.6% | 9.1% | 12.0% |
| Referred for observation | 18.4% | 18.9% | 17.7% | 26.6% | 30.7% |
| | <hr/> | | | | |
| Total | 34.5% | 35.3% | 34.3% | 35.7% | 42.7% |
| | <hr/> | | | | |

In considering these figures it should be remembered that they relate to the medical inspection of the leaver and intermediate age groups only. As previously stated routine medical inspection of entrants was not carried out in 1939.

The following table shows the percentage of *defects* referred from routine medical inspections for treatment or for observation per 100 children examined during the past five years.

| Incidence of defects (excluding uncleanliness, defective clothing, or footgear and dental diseases) referred for treatment or for observation per 100 children examined | | | | | |
|---|------|------|------|------|------|
| | 1935 | 1936 | 1937 | 1938 | 1939 |
| Requiring treatment ... | 18.1 | 19.3 | 18.7 | 9.7 | 12.7 |
| Referred for observation ... | 23.7 | 22.6 | 26.4 | 25.7 | 14.7 |
| Total | 41.8 | 41.9 | 45.1 | 35.4 | 27.4 |

The percentage of children found verminous in 1939 was 2.55%. The corresponding figure for 1938 was 2.59%. In no instance was compulsory cleansing necessary.

The percentage of children found at routine inspections with defective clothing was 2.39% in 1939 as compared with 2.34% in 1938 ; whilst the percentage with defective footwear was 0.93% compared with 1.10% in the preceding year.

Re-examinations : The following table gives the number of re-examinations carried out by medical officers during the year, and the results found at these re-examinations.

| | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|----------------|
| Number of children re-examined | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4,235 |
| Total re-examinations | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6,389 |
| Number found remedied | ... | ... | ... | ... | 433 (6.78%) |
| Number found improved | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3,930 (61.51%) |
| Number found stationary | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1,948 (30.49%) |
| Number found retrograde | ... | ... | ... | ... | 78 (1.22%) |

Secondary Schools.

At the Secondary Schools 1,049 children were examined at the routine inspections. Of these 78 (7.44%) had defects (other than uncleanliness, defective clothing or footwear, or dental defects),

requiring treatment, and 375 (35.75%) defects which required to be kept under observation. The corresponding percentages for 1938 were 5.22% and 30.82%.

In addition to the routine inspections 160 special cases were examined and 365 children previously found defective were re-examined.

MEDICAL TREATMENT.

Elementary Schools.

Table IV gives in detail and Table VII in summary the treatment obtained for the various defects referred for treatment during 1939.

These Tables show that the number of children receiving treatment for the various classes of defects still maintained a very satisfactory level despite the difficulties of the year. That no appreciable decrease in treatment resulted from the disturbance in the school medical scheme due to the outbreak of war is shown by the following figures, which give the number of children treated during the period September to December.

| | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|------|
| No. of Dental cases treated | ..... | ..... | ..... | 2010 |
| No. of Minor Ailments treated | ..... | ..... | ..... | 849 |
| No. of Ophthalmic cases treated | ..... | ..... | ..... | 148 |
| No. of Aural cases treated | ..... | ..... | ..... | 40 |
| No. of Tonsil and Adenoid Operations | ..... | ..... | ..... | 39 |
| No. of Orthopaedic cases treated | ..... | ..... | ..... | 162 |

Secondary Schools.

The detailed figures regarding the defects treated are given in Table XI, and a summary of the treatment obtained is shown in Table XIV.

Of the 143 children referred for treatment for medical defects during the year, 115 (80.42%) were treated before the end of the year, and of 539 children referred for dental treatment 371 (68.83%) were treated. The corresponding figures for 1938 were 87.0% and 94.6%.

Approximately 33.0% of the defects treated were treated under the schemes of the Local Authority.

Provision of Treatment.

The total number of defects treated at the various clinics during the past five years is shown in the following statement.

| | 1935 | 1936 | 1937 | 1938 | 1939 |
|---------------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Minor Ailments | 3,543 | 3,653 | 3,646 | 3,282 | 2,919 |
| Visual Defects | 678 | 807 | 723 | 558 | 578 |
| Defects of Throat and Nose | 241 | 396 | 413 | 304 | 183 |
| Dental Defects | 7,677 | 8,460 | 7,758 | 6,436 | 6,147 |
| Crippling Defects | 331 | 415 | 536 | 601 | 504 |
| Other Defects | 1,092 | 1,236 | 1,126 | 714 | 1,082 |
| Total number of defects treated | 13,562 | 14,967 | 14,202 | 11,895 | 11,413 |
| Total attendances | 59,666 | 60,989 | 62,124 | 61,066 | 53,439 |

As may be seen from the above table the temporary closure of schools in September affected clinic attendances to some extent. Allowing for this, however, the total number of defects treated at the various clinics maintained a satisfactory level.

District clinics for minor ailments and dental defects particularly maintained a high rate of treatment. At district minor ailments clinics 1,653 children made 21,088 attendances during 1939, and at the district dental clinics 1,429 children made 2,576 attendances.

Operative treatment of tonsils and adenoids and cases of squint continued to be carried out. During the year 137 children were operated on for the removal of tonsils and adenoids, and 10 straightening operations were performed for squint.

The following table shows the work carried out at or in connection with the Ophthalmic Clinic during the past five years.

| | 1935 | 1936 | 1937 | 1938 | 1939 |
|--------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Cases for refraction | 678 | 814 | 723 | 558 | 578 |
| Cases glassed | 591 | 701 | 581 | 472 | 405 |
| Cases not glassed | 67 | 113 | 142 | 86 | 173 |
| Old cases reviewed | 779 | 994 | 901 | 723 | 602 |
| Cases referred for observation | 2 | — | — | 6 | 1 |
| External eye diseases | 18 | 9 | 29 | 17 | 3 |
| Operations | 7 | 21 | 40 | 11 | 10 |
| Total attendances | 1,541 | 1,780 | 1,549 | 1,304 | 1,190 |

Owing to the loss of the services of the Consultant Aural Surgeon and his Assistant, who were called up for military service, the work of the Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic was suspended during September and October. In November Mr. W. E. Hunter was appointed Consultant Aural Surgeon, and although working single-handed it was possible by interpolating extra sessions to wipe out a large waiting list. By the end of the year diagnostic and treatment facilities at the Clinic had returned to normal and 37 consultant sessions in all had been held during 1939 as compared with 41 during 1938. During the interim, of course, intermediate treatments were carried out daily by the Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic Nurse.

On the grounds that it was inadvisable to have children travelling long distances across town because of the possible risk of air raids and because of transport difficulties, it was found necessary to reorganise the Speech Defect Clinic. To suit these conditions the Central Speech Clinic was regionalised in three district clinics, which are now visited weekly by the Speech Therapist. This arrangement was approved by the Board of Education in October, 1939. It is not claimed that this arrangement is by any means ideal,

as the children can only be seen once a week instead of twice as formerly, nor are the same facilities or equipment available at the district clinics as in the case of the central clinic. It does, however, ensure that these cases are not neglected.

The following is a summary of the cases dealt with during 1939.

The Speech Clinic started 1939 with 33 cases on the roll.

During the year, 15 new cases were admitted and attended regularly, and 3 attended occasionally for supervision.

Of these 51 cases, 30 were stammerers, 19 were cases of speech defect other than stammering, and 2 were cases of voice disorder.

The cases were classified as follows :—

| | Stammer | Speech Defect | Dysphonia | Total |
|---|---------|------------------|-----------|-------|
| Discharged—speech satisfactory | 8 | 11 | — | 19 |
| Discharged—much improved (left school) | 3 | 1 | — | 4 |
| Lapsed | — | 1 | — | 1 |
| Lapsed owing to war | 2 | — | — | 2 |
| Still attending—speech improving | 17 | 4 | 2 | 23 |
| In statu quo | — | 2 | — | 2 |
| | 30 | 19 | 2 | 51 |

The practice of supplying cod liver oil emulsion free of charge to all the nursery classes in the schools has been continued. The emulsion is given daily to necessitous cases selected by the Head Teacher and to any other cases recommended by the School Nurse or Medical Officer. The scheme has once again proved a marked success.

Part of the cost of treatment provided at these various Clinics is recovered from the parents in accordance with the family circum-

stances. During the year ended 31st December, 1939, parents paid £178/3/6.

The question of special provision for the specially defective child is dealt with under the headings dealing with exceptional children.

DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT.

I am indebted to Mr. V. Higham, Senior Dental Surgeon, for the following notes on the work of the School Dental Department.

“ During 1939, 15,734 elementary school children were inspected and 9,458 (60.1%) referred for treatment. 5,973 of the latter (63.2%) received treatment during the year. The attendances at the various clinics for treatment were 9,755.

“ Generally speaking, the war did not interfere with the work of the Dental Department to any appreciable extent, although the number of children inspected during the year was lower than the previous year, due to the closure of Infant Departments.

“ Co-operation by the head teachers has raised the number of consents from 57% in 1938 to 62% in 1939, and further success in this work is certain to result from a continued enthusiastic co-operation of the head teachers.

“ 5,973 children were treated during the year and 4,798 completed the treatment. Orthodontic appliances were supplied in 2 cases.

“ Owing to the closure of the Open Air School in September treatment was carried out there only once during the year,

when 114 children were inspected. 47 were found to require treatment and 45 were actually treated.

“Cowley Secondary Schools were examined twice during the year.”

FOLLOWING-UP AND WORK OF SCHOOL NURSES.

As stated earlier in the Report the work of the School Nurses was greatly increased after the outbreak of war, due to the modified scheme of school inspection which was introduced. Between September and December, 82 special visits were made to schools by Nurses for purposes of medical inspection. The following figures give some idea of their other work :—

- | | |
|---|--------|
| 1. Number of visits to schools for general supervisory purposes and for medical and verminous inspections | 4,363 |
| 2. Number of examinations of children for cleanliness | 55,137 |
| 3. Number of visits paid to the homes of children in following up defects, investigating cases of infectious disease, investigating cases referred by the School Attendance Department, etc. | 6,180 |

In addition to the work of the nurses referred to above, special nurses are employed, at the School Clinic and District Clinics, who are wholly engaged treating or assisting in the treatment of various defects.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The number of cases of the principal infectious diseases occurring amongst school children is shown in the following table, which also gives the corresponding figures since 1935.

| | | | | 1935 | 1936 | 1937 | 1938 | 1939 |
|----------------|-----|-----|-----|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | | | | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| Scarlet Fever | ... | ... | ... | 374 | 394 | 488 | 396 | 639 |
| Diphtheria | ... | ... | ... | 147 | 368 | 325 | 311 | 324 |
| Measles | ... | ... | ... | 784 | 709 | 529 | 808 | 125 |
| German Measles | ... | ... | ... | 6 | 22 | 13 | 26 | 122 |
| Whooping Cough | ... | ... | ... | 409 | 28 | 357 | 188 | 141 |
| Chicken Pox | ... | ... | ... | 228 | 226 | 501 | 246 | 320 |
| Mumps | ... | ... | ... | 60 | 96 | 99 | 377 | 17 |

As will be seen from the above figures there was a high incidence of scarlet fever in the schools. This persisted uniformly throughout all the months of the year. The disease, however, was mild in type, with no sequelae. The number of cases of diphtheria also remained at an unsatisfactory high level. This disease did not appear in any particular school or locality in epidemic form, but was rather remarkable for its constant and widespread incidence. There was also an unusually large number of cases of German measles throughout the schools in the latter part of the year. Other epidemic diseases showed a relatively low incidence.

During the year the percentage attendance fell below 60% in one department only, owing to epidemic sickness. This occurred in January, when attendances were affected for a period of two weeks due to influenza.

TUBERCULOSIS.

During 1939 the number of notifications received in respect of school children was 3 for the pulmonary and 16 for the non-pulmonary type of the disease. This was a slight decrease in both forms of the disease compared with the previous year. At the end of 1939 there were in St. Helens 119 children of school age suffering from tuberculosis. These may be classified from the point of view of localisation of the disease as follows :—

| | | | | |
|-------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Pulmonary | ..... | ..... | ..... | 21 |
| Non-pulmonary— | | | | |
| Bones and joints | ..... | ..... |  | 19 |
| Peripheral glands | ..... | ..... |  | 52 |
| Abdominal | ..... | ..... |  | 22 |
| Skin and others | ..... | ..... |  | 5 |
| | | | | <hr/> |
| | | | | 119 |
| | | | | <hr/> |

Many of the cases were quiescent and only 14 non-pulmonary cases (i.e. 14.3%) were found to require active treatment.

Out-patient treatment for children suffering from tuberculous disease of bones or joints is provided at the Council's Orthopaedic Clinic, where 24 children made 44 attendances to see the Orthopaedic Surgeon, and 116 attendances for supervision and treatment by the Orthopaedic Nurse. The latter also paid 217 supervisory home visits during the year. In addition, 27 children suffering from lupus or tuberculous adenitis made 268 attendances at the Tuberculosis Dispensary for X-ray therapy. One child with lupus of the face attended the Belmont Road Hospital, Liverpool, by arrangement with the Liverpool Public Health Department, for intensive ultra violet light treatment.

During 1939, 30 children spent an aggregate of 2,959 days in Eccleston Hall Sanatorium. These children received tuition at the special school attached to the Sanatorium, the average daily attendance being 9 and the average number of days each child attended 75. In addition, 5 children spent an aggregate of 1,423 days in the Leasowe Open Air Hospital for Children.

EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN.

Crippled Children.

At the end of 1939 there were in St. Helens 42 children of school age in whom the crippling was sufficiently severe to interfere with a normal mode of life.

The following Table shows the number of severely crippled children in St. Helens at the end of each year since 1935 and the causes of the crippling.

| | 1935 | 1936 | 1937 | 1938 | 1939 |
|--------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Tuberculosis | 7 | 4 | 7 | 11 | 3 |
| Infantile Paralysis | 19 | 17 | 17 | 15 | 17 |
| Other forms of Paralysis | 14 | 13 | 11 | 10 | 6 |
| Congenital Deformities | 5 | 3 | 4 | 11 | 8 |
| Rickets | 3 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| Arthritis | 3 | 3 | 2 | — | — |
| Miscellaneous | 6 | 8 | 5 | 5 | 6 |
| | 57 | 52 | 48 | 54 | 42 |

Of the 42 children known at the end of 1939, 26 were attending Public Elementary Schools, 10 were in Institutions and 6 were at no school or institution.

There are, however, many other children with lesser degrees of crippling, so that excluding tuberculous cases which are dealt with under Tuberculosis, the number on the register of the Orthopaedic Clinic was much higher, there being 504 cases suffering from the following defects on that register during the year :

| | | | | |
|----------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-----------------|
| Infantile paralysis | ..... | ..... | ..... | 50 |
| Other forms of paralysis | ..... | ..... | ..... | 44 |
| Congenital deformities | ..... | ..... | ..... | 49 |
| Rickets | ..... | ..... | ..... | 45 |
| Traumatism | ..... | ..... | ..... | 6 |
| Acquired foot deformities | ..... | ..... | ..... | 122 |
| Postural defects | ..... | ..... | ..... | 132 |
| Other acquired deformities | ..... | ..... | ..... | 38 |
| Arthritis | ..... | ..... | ..... | 4 |
| Miscellaneous | ..... | ..... | ..... | 14 |
| | | | | <hr/> 504 <hr/> |

The treatment provided for crippled children involved 740 attendances for consultation or treatment by the Orthopaedic Surgeon, 4,241 attendances for intermediate treatment by the nurse and 134 home visits by the nurse for purposes of supervision. In addition, 23 cases received surgical or other hospital treatment for an aggregate of 984 days.

In addition to the crippled children there are in St. Helens 16 children with heart disease of such severity that they are physically crippled. 10 of these attend public elementary schools, and 6 are at no school.

Delicate Children.

On the outbreak of war the Education Committee decided, very reluctantly, to close the Hamblett Open Air School. This step was taken on the grounds that it was inadvisable to have children

travelling long distances across town because of the risks of air raids and because of transport difficulties.

At the beginning of 1939 there were 120 children on the register. During the period January to September 62 children were discharged and 64 new cases were admitted. The condition of the children discharged was as follows :—

| | | | |
|---|-------|-------|----|
| Considered fit to return to elementary schools | ..... | ..... | 49 |
| Left to take up employment | ..... | ..... | 4 |
| Discharged at parents' request | ..... | ..... | 4 |
| Removed from the district | ..... | ..... | 1 |
| Discharged as unsuitable for further attendance | ..... | ..... | 1 |
| Discharged for refusal of treatment | ..... | ..... | 2 |
| Deceased | ..... | ..... | 1 |

On the closure of the school 122 children were transferred to their previous elementary schools.

Although the treatment at the school ceased in September, the services of the nurse attached to the school were retained, and she made regular visits both to the schools to which the children returned and to their homes. A weekly report on the condition of the children visited is submitted to the School Medical Officer. These reports have been almost universally adverse. Constant attendance at Inspection Clinics and recommendations for milk and meals are measures which have been adopted in the cases of these children in order to offset the loss of their attendance at the Open Air School, and in many cases periods of convalescence at Southport Convalescent Home have also been obtained. It must be stated, however, that no emergency measures, however energetically they may be applied, can compensate for the loss of regular treatment at the Open Air School.

Blind, Deaf and Epileptic Children.

The total number of these children is given in Table III. During the year 1 epileptic child was sent to a special residential school, and the Local Authority is at present maintaining 2 epileptic, 8 blind, and 11 deaf and dumb children in special schools.

Mentally Defective Children.

There are at present 29 feeble-minded but educable children of school age in St. Helens, but only 10 of these are at special schools. Of the remainder, 15 attend ordinary classes in the public elementary schools and 4 are at no school or institution.

During the year 1 imbecile boy was notified to the Local Control Authority.

Arrangements are still in force with the Liverpool and District Child Guidance Council and Clinic for the reference to them for report on and, if necessary, supervision of, "difficult" children, i.e., those presenting psychological problems as distinct from mental deficiency. This has been found of great assistance during the year.

After Care and Vocational Training.

During 1939, 2 deaf children (a boy and a girl) returned home on completing their education in special schools. The boy is now at home under the supervision of the St. Helens Deaf and Dumb Society, and the girl has been sent to a residential school for vocational training in dressmaking.

A blind youth completed his vocational training in brush-making and is now employed at the local Workshops for the Blind. At the end of the year one blind man was undergoing vocational training in brush making at Henshaw's Institution for the Blind, Manchester.

NURSERY CLASSES.

The Nursery Classes existing in the 21 infants' departments of Public Elementary Schools have remained closed since the outbreak of war. Under normal circumstances the children in these Classes received an annual routine medical examination, and there was a daily provision of cod liver oil emulsion to each child. The suspension of medical supervision and treatment is a great loss to the positive work achieved by the School Medical Service, but circumstances have rendered school attendance at these ages a practical impossibility.

As a substitute, an effort was made to direct these children to the Toddlers' Clinics under the Maternity and Child Welfare scheme, so that medical inspection and necessary treatment should not be entirely denied to them. In so far as parents have availed themselves of this alternative method of medical supervision, no anxiety need be felt as to the welfare of this class of children. But the task of contacting the individual child is obviously rendered more difficult by this means, as compared with the regular medical inspection of the children when gathered together daily in their Nursery Classes.

JUNIOR INSTRUCTION CENTRES.

Medical Inspection.

Until September, 1939, the scheme for the medical inspection of juveniles attending Junior Instruction Centres was in continued operation. These Centres were closed, however, on the outbreak of war and did not re-open.

There was inevitably a reduction in the total number of boys and girls examined as compared with the previous years, but in all 266 girls and 314 boys received a routine medical examination, while 95 girls and 21 boys, found defective at the previous year's inspection, were re-examined.

Findings of Medical Inspection.

INCIDENCE OF MEDICAL DEFECTS.

Junior Instruction Centres.

| | Routine Inspections. | | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| | No. of defects requiring treatment | Incidence per 1,000 Inspections | No. of defects requiring observation | Incidence per 1,000 Inspections |
| Skin diseases | 4 | 6.9 | 4 | 6.9 |
| Defect of vision | 19 | 32.8 | 62 | 106.9 |
| Squint | 1 | 1.7 | 6 | 10.3 |
| Other eye diseases | 6 | 10.3 | 5 | 8.6 |
| Defects of hearing | — | — | 3 | 5.2 |
| Otitis Media | 4 | 6.9 | 5 | 8.6 |
| Chronic tonsilitis | 1 | 1.7 | 23 | 39.7 |
| Adenoids..... | — | — | — | — |
| Adenoids and chronic tonsilitis | — | — | — | — |
| Other Nose and Throat defects | — | — | 2 | 3.4 |
| Defect of speech | 1 | 1.7 | 1 | 1.7 |
| Organic heart disease | — | — | 1 | 1.7 |
| Pulmonary Tuberculosis— | | | | |
| (a) Definite | — | — | — | — |
| (b) Suspected | — | — | — | — |
| Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis | — | — | 4 | 6.9 |
| Epilepsy | — | — | — | — |
| Chorea | — | — | — | — |
| Other nervous conditions | — | — | 2 | 3.4 |
| Deformities— | | | | |
| Rickets | 1 | 1.7 | 2 | 3.4 |
| Spinal Curvature | — | — | — | — |
| Other Forms | 1 | 1.7 | 11 | 19.0 |

Once again, as has been previously noted, there was a very high number of visual defects, especially amongst the girls. The majority of these are children who have worn glasses during their school life, but who refuse to do so after leaving school. It is also admitted that an additional factor amongst girls of these ages for the discarding of spectacles lies in the dawning appreciation of artificial aids to facial adornment, which appear antagonistic to the severely utilitarian artificial aid to vision.

As regards the nutrition of the children, a surprisingly poor nutritional standard was found amongst girls as compared with boys. The latter showed a tendency towards an improved average of nutrition as compared with the previous year.

Classification of Nutrition of Children inspected up to 31st August, 1939.

| Number Inspected. | A. | | B. | | C. | | D. | |
|--------------------------|-------------|----------------|----------|------------------|-----------------------|------------------|-------|----------------|
| | (Excellent) | | (Normal) | | (Slightly sub-normal) | | (Bad) | |
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| Boys and Girls 580 | 43 | 7.41 (5.44) | 421 | 72.59 (83.06) | 97 | 16.72 (10.56) | 19 | 3.28 (0.94) |
| Boys 314 | 18 | 5.73 | 185 | 58.92 | 92 | 29.30 | 19 | 6.05 |
| Girls 266 | 25 | 9.40 | 236 | 88.72 | 5 | 1.88 | — | — |

The classification of the children examined with regard to their suitability for special employments is shown below. Once again the large number of rejections because of eye defect is outstanding.

| | Boys | Girls |
|---|------|-------|
| Number of Juveniles examined | 314 | 266 |
| (1) Suitable for any type of employment | 195 | 169 |
| (2) Unsuitable for employment involving : | | |
| (a) Severe manual work | 68 | 28 |
| (b) Sedentary work | — | — |
| (c) Exposure to bad weather | 11 | 1 |
| (d) Work in a dusty atmosphere | 6 | 1 |
| (e) Work in a damp atmosphere | 5 | 1 |
| (f) Work near moving machinery | 9 | 1 |
| (g) Prolonged standing | 6 | 7 |
| (h) Work causing eyestrain | 20 | 52 |
| (i) Work requiring acute distant vision | 27 | 61 |
| (j) Work requiring acute hearing | 2 | 3 |
| (k) Work requiring manipulative skill | 1 | 2 |

It should be noted, however, that some of the boys and girls appear more than once in these classifications according to their unsuitability for one, two or more types of employment.

Treatment.

With regard to treatment, all the facilities available for children attending Public Elementary Schools are available for these juveniles, but those who are entitled to treatment under the National Health Insurance scheme are expected to obtain treatment under that scheme. Treatment for minor ailments, dental and ophthalmic defects, etc., is now fully supplied to those consenting. Cases requiring extra nourishment are recommended for milk or meals.

The total number of defects treated at the various clinics during 1939 is shown in the following statement :—

| | | | | <i>Boys</i> | <i>Girls</i> |
|-------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------------|--------------|
| Minor ailments | ..... | ..... | ..... | 8 | 1 |
| Visual defects | ..... | ..... | ..... | 10 | 6 |
| Aural defects | ..... | ..... | ..... | 2 | — |
| Throat and nose defects |  | ..... | ..... | 1 | — |
| Crippling defects | ..... | ..... | ..... | — | — |
| Dental defects | ..... | ..... | ..... | 16 | 17 |
| Other defects | ..... | ..... | ..... | 13 | 6 |
| | | | | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| Total | ..... | ..... | ..... | 50 | 30 |
| | | | | <hr/> | <hr/> |

PROVISION OF MEALS.

The Local Authority's provision of meals and milk for under-nourished children functioned normally throughout 1939 and was unaffected by the outbreak of the war. The total number of meals served during the year was 659,068, of which 654,252 were provided free. The total number of individual children receiving meals was 1,778, which was an increase of 378 on the figure for 1938.

A proposal was put forward to provide school dinners at the Hamblett Open Air Council School, which is now in use by a number of senior boys from Rivington Road Council Senior Boys' School. The charge per meal was 4d. in the case of those boys who are able to pay, with a remission of the charge in the case of parents who, through lack of means, were unable to pay. This proposal was sanctioned by the Board early in the current year.

STATISTICAL TABLES.

FOR THE YEAR 1939.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS—Tables I to VII.

TABLE I.

RETURN OF MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

A—ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

Number of Inspections in the prescribed Groups :

| | |
|------------------------|------|
| Entrants | — |
| Second Age Group | 1467 |
| Third Age Group | 1755 |

Number of other Routine Inspections

(Children under 5 years, other than entrants)

Total 3222

B—OTHER INSPECTIONS.

Number of Special Inspections 5674

Number of Re-Inspections 6389

Total 12063

TABLE II.

Classification of the Nutrition of Children inspected up to 31st August.
Routine Age Groups.

| Age-Groups | Number of Children inspected | A (excellent) | | B (Normal) | | C (Slightly Sub-Normal) | | D (Bad) | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------|------|------------|-------|-------------------------|-------|---------|------|
| | | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| 1938 | | | | | | | | | |
| Entrants | 1773 | 73 | 4.12 | 1610 | 90.81 | 85 | 4.79 | 5 | 0.28 |
| Second Age Group | 1799 | 60 | 3.34 | 1563 | 86.88 | 170 | 9.45 | 6 | 0.33 |
| Third Age Group | 2012 | 24 | 1.19 | 1660 | 82.50 | 315 | 15.66 | 13 | 0.65 |
| Other Routine Inspections | 405 | 15 | 3.70 | 374 | 92.35 | 16 | 3.95 | — | — |
| TOTAL | 5989 | 172 | 2.87 | 5207 | 86.94 | 586 | 9.79 | 24 | 0.40 |
| 1939 | | | | | | | | | |
| Entrants | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Second Age Group | 1445 | 113 | 7.82 | 1152 | 79.72 | 173 | 11.97 | 7 | 0.49 |
| Third Age Group | 1755 | 61 | 3.48 | 1506 | 85.81 | 165 | 9.40 | 23 | 1.31 |
| Other Routine Inspections | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| TOTAL | 3200 | 174 | 5.44 | 2658 | 83.06 | 338 | 10.56 | 30 | 0.94 |

TABLE III.

Return of all Exceptional Children in the Area on the 31st December, 1939.

BLIND CHILDREN.

(Children who are so blind that they can only be appropriately taught in a school for blind children).

| At Certified Schools for the Blind | At Public Elementary Schools | At other Institutions | At no School or Institution | Total |
|--|------------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------|
| 7 | — | — | 1 | 8 |

PARTIALLY SIGHTED CHILDREN.

(Children who, though they cannot read ordinary school books or cannot read them (even with suitable glasses) without injury to their eyesight, have such power of vision that they can appropriately be taught in a school for the partially blind).

| At Certified Schools for the Blind | At Certified Schools for the Partially Blind | At Public Elementary Schools | At other Institutions | At no School or Institution | Total |
|--|--|------------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------|
| — | — | 7 | 1 | 1 | 9 |

DEAF CHILDREN.

(Children who are too deaf to be taught in a class of hearing children in an elementary school, and are so deaf that they can only be appropriately taught in a school for the deaf).

| At Certified Schools for the Deaf | At Public Elementary Schools | At other Institutions | At no School or Institution | Total |
|---|------------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------|
| 11 | 2 | — | — | 13 |

PARTIALLY DEAF CHILDREN.

(Children who can be appropriately taught in a school for the partially deaf).

| At Certified Schools for the Deaf | At Certified Schools for the partially deaf | At Public Elementary Schools | At other Institutions | At no School or Institution | Total |
|---|---|------------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------|
| — | — | 2 | — | — | 2 |

MENTALLY DEFECTIVE CHILDREN.

(Children (excluding children notified to the Local Authority under the Mental Deficiency Act) who, not being imbecile and not being merely dull or backward, are incapable by reason of mental defect of receiving proper benefit from the instruction in the ordinary Public Elementary Schools but are not incapable by reason of that defect of receiving benefit from instruction in Special Schools for mentally defective children).

| At Certified Schools for Mentally Defective Children | At Public Elementary Schools | At other Institutions | At no School or Institution | Total |
|--|------------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------|
| 10 | 15 | — | 4 | 29 |

EPILEPTIC CHILDREN.

(Children suffering from Severe Epilepsy, who, not being idiots or imbeciles are unfit by reason of severe epilepsy to attend the ordinary Public Elementary Schools).

| At Certified Special Schools | At Public Elementary Schools | At other Institutions | At no School or Institution | Total |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------|
| 2 | 1 | — | 1 | 4 |

PHYSICALLY DEFECTIVE CHILDREN.

A.—TUBERCULOUS CHILDREN.

(Children diagnosed as tuberculous **and requiring treatment for tuberculosis** at a sanatorium, a dispensary, or elsewhere).

I.—Children Suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis. (including pleura and intra-thoracic glands)

| At Certified Special Schools | At Public Elementary Schools | At other Institutions | At no School or Institution | Total |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------|
| — | — | — | — | — |

II.—Children Suffering from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

| At Certified Special Schools | At Public Elementary Schools | At other Institutions | At no School or Institution | Total |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------|
| 3 | 5 | *4 | 2 | 14 |

* At Eccleston Hall Sanatorium School.

B.—DELICATE CHILDREN.

(Children (except those included in other groups) whose general health renders it desirable that they should be specially selected for admission to an Open Air School).

| At Certified Special Schools | At Public Elementary Schools | At other Institutions | At no School or Institution | Total |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------|
| — | 205 | — | 1 | 206 |

C.—CRIPPLED CHILDREN.

(Children (other than those diagnosed as tuberculous and in need of treatment for that disease) suffering from a degree of crippling sufficiently severe to interfere materially with a child's normal mode of life).

| At Certified Special Schools | At Public Elementary Schools | At other Institutions | At no School or Institution | Total |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------|
| — | 26 | 10 | 6 | 42 |

D.—CHILDREN WITH HEART DISEASE.

(Children whose defect is so severe as to necessitate the provision of educational facilities other than those of the Public Elementary School).

| At Certified Special Schools | At Public Elementary Schools | At other Institutions | At no School or Institution | Total |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------|
| — | 10 | — | 6 | 16 |

CHILDREN SUFFERING FROM MULTIPLE DEFECTS.

(Children suffering from any combination of the following types of defect:—Blindness (not Partial Blindness), Deafness (not Partial Deafness), Mental Defect, Epilepsy, Active Tuberculosis, Crippling (as defined in Section C. of this Table), Heart Disease).

| Combination of Defect | At Certified Special Schools | At Public Elementary Schools | At Other Institutions | At no School or Institution | Total |
|---|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------|
| Blind and Deaf | 1 | — | — | — | 1 |
| Blind, Crippled and Feeble-minded | — | — | — | 3 | 3 |
| Feeble-minded and Epilepsy..... | 1 | 1 | — | 1 | 3 |
| Feeble-minded and Crippled | 1 | — | — | 1 | 2 |
| Blind and Epilepsy | — | — | — | 1 | 1 |
| T.B. and Heart | — | 1 | — | — | 1 |
| Total | 3 | 2 | — | 6 | 11 |

TABLE IV.

Return of Defects Treated during the Year ended 31st December, 1939.

TREATMENT TABLE.

Group I.—Minor Ailments (excluding Uncleanliness, for which see Table VI).

| DISEASE OR DEFECT | Number of Defects referred for Treatment | Number of Defects treated, or under treatment, during the year. | | |
|--|--|---|-----------|-------|
| | | Under the Authority's Scheme | Otherwise | Total |
| SKIN—Ringworm, Scalp— | | | | |
| (i) X-Ray Treatment... | — | — | — | — |
| (ii) Others | — | — | — | — |
| Ringworm, Body | 7 | 7 | — | 7 |
| Scabies | 58 | 58 | — | 58 |
| Impetigo | 1007 | 981 | 23 | 1004 |
| Other skin disease | 175 | 174 | 1 | 175 |
| MINOR EYE DEFECTS— | | | | |
| (External and other, but excluding cases falling in Group II) | 420 | 357 | 58 | 415 |
| MINOR EAR DEFECTS | 433 | 407 | 17 | 424 |
| MISCELLANEOUS— | | | | |
| (e.g., minor injuries, bruises, sores, chilblains, etc.) | 948 | 931 | 16 | 947 |
| Total | 3048 | 2915 | 115 | 3030 |

Group II.—Defective Vision and Squint (excluding Minor Eye Defects treated as Minor Ailments—Group I).

| DEFECT OR DISEASE | Number of Defects referred for Treatment | No. OF DEFECTS DEALT WITH. | | | |
|--|--|-------------------------------|--|-----------|-------|
| | | Under the Authority's Scheme. | Submitted to refraction by private practitioner or at Hospital, apart from the Authority's Scheme. | Otherwise | Total |
| Errors of Refraction (including Squint) | 671 | 495 | 18 | 20 | 533 |
| Other Defect or Disease of the Eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I) | — | — | — | — | — |
| Total | 671 | 495 | 18 | 20 | 533 |

Total number of children for whom spectacles were prescribed—

| | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| (a) Under the Authority's Scheme | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 374 |
| (b) Otherwise | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 28 |

Total number of children who obtained or received spectacles—

| | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|-----|
| (a) Under the Authority's Scheme | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | .. | 374 |
| (b) Otherwise | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | .. | 27 |

Group III.—Treatment of Defects of Nose and Throat.

| Referred for treatment | Number of Defects. | | | | | | | | | | | | | Received other forms of treat- ment. | Total number treated |
|------------------------------|--|------|-------|------|--|------|-------|------|-------|------|-------|------|----|---|----------------------------|
| | Received Operative Treatment. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Under the Authority's Scheme in Clinic or Hospital | | | | By Private Practitioner or Hospital apart from the Authority's Scheme | | | | Total | | | | | | |
| | (i) | (ii) | (iii) | (iv) | (i) | (ii) | (iii) | (iv) | (i) | (ii) | (iii) | (iv) | | | |
| 380 | 3 | 1 | 115 | 8 | 15 | — | 30 | 2 | 18 | 1 | 145 | 10 | 85 | 259 | |

- (i) Tonsils only.
- (ii) Adenoids only.
- (iii) Tonsils and adenoids.
- (iv) Other defects of the nose and throat.

Group IV.—Orthopaedic and Postural Defects.

| Number of children treated. | | | | | | Total number treated |
|---|--|--|---|--|--|----------------------------|
| Under the Authority's Scheme | | | Otherwise | | | |
| Residential treatment with education | Residential treatment without education | Non- residential treatment at an orthopaedic clinic | Residential treatment with education | Residential treatment without education | Non- residential treatment at an orthopaedic clinic | |
| 15 | 14 | 486 | — | — | 8 | 494 |

TABLE V.
Dental Inspection and Treatment.

| | | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------|--|-------------|
| (1) Number of Children who were :— | | (2) Half-days devoted to :— | |
| (a) Inspected by the Dentist : | | Inspection ... 142 | |
| Aged : | | Treatment ... 1134 | Total 1276 |
| Routine Age Groups | 3— | 247 | |
| | 4— | 663 | |
| | 5— | 1194 | |
| | 6— | 1252 | |
| | 7— | 1633 | |
| | 8— | 1738 | |
| | 9— | 1736 | |
| | 10— | 1714 | Total 15734 |
| | 11— | 1590 | |
| | 12— | 1639 | |
| | 13— | 1640 | |
| | 14— | 530 | |
| | 15— | 149 | |
| | 16— | 9 | |
| | Specials | 148 | |
| | Grand Total | ... | 15882 |
| (b) Found to require treatment | | 9606 | |
| (c) Actually treated | | 5973 | |
| | | (3) Attendances made by children for treatment | ... 9755 |
| | | (4) Fillings :— | |
| | | Permanent teeth 4858 | Total 4933 |
| | | Temporary teeth 75 | |
| | | (5) Extractions :— | |
| | | Permanent teeth 3078 | Total 13391 |
| | | Temporary teeth 10313 | |
| | | (6) Administrations of general anæsthetics for extractions | 1176 |
| | | (7) Other Operations :— | |
| | | Permanent teeth 530 | Total 544 |
| | | Temporary teeth 14 | |

Note :—In addition to the above inspections, 5783 children were re-inspected during the year.

TABLE VI.
Uncleanliness and Verminous Conditions.

| | | |
|--------|--|-------|
| (i.) | Average number of visits per school made during the year by the School Nurses... | 55 |
| (ii.) | Total number of examinations of children in the Schools by School Nurses | 54088 |
| (iii.) | Number of individual children found unclean | 1381 |
| (iv.) | Number of children cleansed under arrangements made by the Local Education Authority | — |
| (v.) | Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken : | |
| | (a) Under the Education Act, 1921 | Nil |
| | (b) Under School Attendance Byelaws | Nil |

TABLE VII.

Summary of Treatment of Defects.

| DISEASE OR DEFECT | | | | | NUMBER OF DEFECTS | | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|-----|-----|-----|------------------------------|---|-----------|-------|
| | | | | | Referred for Treatment | TREATED | | |
| | | | | | | Under local Education Authority's Scheme | Otherwise | Total |
| Minor Ailments | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3048 | 2915 | 115 | 3030 |
| Visual Defects | ... | ... | ... | ... | 671 | 538 | 38 | 576 |
| Defects of Throat and Nose | ... | ... | ... | ... | 380 | 180 | 79 | 259 |
| Dental Defects | { Referred by Dentist | | | | 9606 | 5973 | 118 | 6091 |
| | { „ by School M.O. | | | | 40 | 12 | 13 | 25 |
| Other Defects | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1257 | 1142 | 85 | 1227 |
| Total | | | | | 15002 | 10760 | 448 | 11208 |

SECONDARY SCHOOLS—Tables VIII to XIV.

TABLE VIII.

RETURN OF MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

A—ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

Number of Inspections—

| | | | | | | | |
|-------|----|---|----|-----|----|---|------|
| Age | 4 | — | 3 | Age | 12 | — | 197 |
| | 5 | — | 19 | | 13 | — | 190 |
| | 6 | — | 22 | | 14 | — | 146 |
| | 7 | — | 23 | | 15 | — | 118 |
| | 8 | — | 38 | | 16 | — | 64 |
| | 9 | — | 30 | | 17 | — | 26 |
| | 10 | — | 64 | | 18 | — | 13 |
| | 11 | — | 96 | | 19 | — | — |
| | | | | | | | — |
| Total | | | | | | | 1049 |
| | | | | | | | — |

B.—OTHER INSPECTIONS.

| | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Number of Special Inspections | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 160 |
| Number of Re-inspections | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 365 |
| | | | | | | | — |
| Total | | | | | | | 525 |
| | | | | | | | — |

C.—CHILDREN FOUND TO REQUIRE TREATMENT.

Number of *individual children* found at *Routine Medical Inspection* to Require Treatment (excluding Defects of Nutrition, Uncleanliness and Dental Diseases).

| Group. | For defective vision (excluding squint). | For all other conditions recorded in Table IX A. | Total. |
|-------------------|---|---|--------|
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) |
| All Ages | 30 | 57 | 87 |

TABLE IX.

Classification of the Nutrition of Children inspected during the year.

| Number of Children Inspected | A. (Excellent) | | B. (Normal) | | C. (Slightly Sub-normal) | | D. (Bad) | |
|------------------------------|-------------------|-------|----------------|-------|--------------------------------|------|-------------|---|
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| 514 | 86 | 16.73 | 424 | 82.49 | 4 | 0.78 | — | — |

TABLE X.

Return of all Exceptional Children in the area on the 31st December, 1939.

(NOTE :—The definitions for the purposes of this Table are the same as those shown in Table III of the statistics for Elementary Schools).

BLIND CHILDREN.

Nil.

PARTIALLY SIGHTED CHILDREN.

Nil.

DEAF CHILDREN.

Nil.

PARTIALLY DEAF CHILDREN.

Nil.

MENTALLY DEFECTIVE CHILDREN.

Nil.

EPILEPTIC CHILDREN.

Nil.

PHYSICALLY DEFECTIVE CHILDREN.

A.—TUBERCULOUS CHILDREN.

I.—Children Suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis.
Nil.

II.—Children Suffering from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.
Nil.

B. DELICATE CHILDREN.

| At Certified Special Schools | At Secondary Schools | At other Institutions | At no School or Institution | Total |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|-------|
| — | 2 | — | — | 2 |

C. CRIPPLED CHILDREN.
Nil.

D. CHILDREN WITH HEART DISEASE.
Nil.

CHILDREN SUFFERING FROM MULTIPLE DEFECTS.
Nil.

TABLE XI.

Return of Defects Treated during the Year ended 31st December, 1939.

TREATMENT TABLE.

Group I.—Minor Ailments (excluding Uncleanliness, for which see Table XIII).

| DISEASE OR DEFECT (1) | Number of Defects referred for Treatment (2) | Number of Defects treated, or under treatment, during the year. | | |
|---|--|--|------------------|--------------|
| | | Under the Authority's Scheme (3) | Otherwise (4) | Total (5) |
| SKIN—Ringworm, Scalp— | | | | |
| (i) X-Ray Treatment | — | — | — | — |
| (ii) Others | — | — | — | — |
| Ringworm, Body | — | — | — | — |
| Scabies | — | — | — | — |
| Impetigo | — | — | — | — |
| Other Skin Disease | 1 | 1 | — | 1 |
| MINOR EYE DEFECTS— | | | | |
| (External and other, but excluding cases falling in Group II) | 2 | — | 2 | 2 |
| MINOR EAR DEFECTS | 4 | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| MISCELLANEOUS— | | | | |
| (e.g., minor injuries, bruises, sores, chil- blains, etc.) | — | — | — | — |
| Total | 7 | 4 | 3 | 7 |

Group II.—Defective Vision and Squint (excluding Minor Eye Defects treated as Minor Ailments—Group I).

| DEFECT OR DISEASE | Number of Defects referred for Treatment | No. OF DEFECTS DEALT WITH. | | | |
|--|--|-------------------------------|---|-----------|-------|
| | | Under the Authority's Scheme. | Submitted to refraction by private practitioner or at Hospital apart from the Authority's Scheme. | Otherwise | Total |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) |
| Errors of Refraction (including Squint) | 68 | 40 | 13 | 1 | 54 |
| Other Defect or Disease of the Eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I) | — | — | — | — | — |
| Total ... | 68 | 40 | 13 | 1 | 54 |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|--|------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Total number of children for whom spectacles were prescribed: | | | | | | | | | |
| (a) | Under the Authority's Scheme | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 31 |
| (b) | Otherwise | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 14 |
| Total number of children who obtained or received spectacles : | | | | | | | | | |
| (a) | Under the Authority's Scheme | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 31 |
| (b) | Otherwise | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 13 |

Group III.—Treatment of Defects of Nose and Throat.

| Referred for treatment | Number of Defects. | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|---|------|-------|------|--|------|-------|------|-------|------|-------|------|--|----------------------------|
| | Received Operative Treatment | | | | | | | | | | | | Received other forms of treatment | Total number treated |
| | Under the Authority's Scheme, in Clinic or Hospital | | | | By Private Practitioner or Hospital, apart from the Authority's Scheme | | | | Total | | | | | |
| | (i) | (ii) | (iii) | (iv) | (i) | (ii) | (iii) | (iv) | (i) | (ii) | (iii) | (iv) | | |
| 17 | — | 1 | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | 1 | 7 | 9 |

- (i) Tonsils only.
- (ii) Adenoids only.
- (iii) Tonsils and adenoids.
- (iv) Other defects of the nose and throat.

Group IV.—Orthopaedic and Postural Defects.

| Number of Children Treated. | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|--|--------------------------------------|---|--|-------|
| Under the Authority's Scheme | | | Otherwise | | | Total |
| Residential treatment with education | Residential treatment without education | Non-residential treatment at an orthopaedic clinic | Residential treatment with education | Residential treatment without education | Non-residential treatment at an orthopaedic clinic | |
| 1 | — | 18 | — | — | 3 | 21 |

TABLE XII.

Dental Inspection and Treatment.

| | | | |
|------------------------------------|--|---|--|
| (1) Number of children who were :— | | (2) Half-days devoted to :— | |
| (a) Inspected by the Dentist : | | Treatment ... ...34} | |
| Aged : | | Inspection ... ...12} | |
| | | Total 46 | |
| | | (3) Attendances made by Children for treatment ... 335 | |
| | | (4) Fillings :— | |
| | | Permanent Teeth 207} | |
| | | Temporary Teeth —} | |
| | | Total 207 | |
| | | (5) Extractions :— | |
| | | Permanent Teeth ...148} | |
| | | Temporary Teeth ... 58} | |
| | | Total 206 | |
| | | (6) Administrations of general anæsthetics for extractions ... 23 | |
| | | (7) Other Operations :— | |
| | | Permanent Teeth ...18} | |
| | | Temporary teeth ...—} | |
| | | Total 18 | |

NOTE.—In addition to the above inspections, 908 children were re-inspected during the year, and of those, 395 were found to require treatment.

TABLE XIII.

Uncleanliness and Verminous Conditions.

| | |
|---|------|
| (i.) Average number of visits per school made during the year by the School Nurses | 26 |
| (ii.) Total number of examinations of children in the Schools by School Nurses | 1049 |
| (iii.) Number of individual children found unclean... .. | 2 |
| (iv.) Number of children cleansed under arrangements made by the Local Education Authority | — |
| (v.) Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken : | |
| (a) Under the Education Act, 1921... .. | — |
| (b) Under School Attendance Byelaws | — |

TABLE XIV.

Summary of Treatment of Defects.

| DISEASE OR DEFECT | NUMBER OF DEFECTS | | | |
|---|------------------------|--|-----------|-------|
| | Referred for Treatment | TREATED | | Total |
| | | Under local Education Authority's Scheme | Otherwise | |
| Minor Ailments | 7 | 4 | 3 | 7 |
| Visual Defects | 68 | 40 | 14 | 54 |
| Defects of Throat and Nose | 17 | 3 | 6 | 9 |
| Dental } Referred by Dentist | 526 | 158 | 204 | 362 |
| Defects } Referred by School M.O.... .. | 13 | 4 | 5 | 9 |
| Other Defects | 51 | 16 | 29 | 45 |
| Total | 682 | 225 | 261 | 486 |

